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UCAPAWA NEWS

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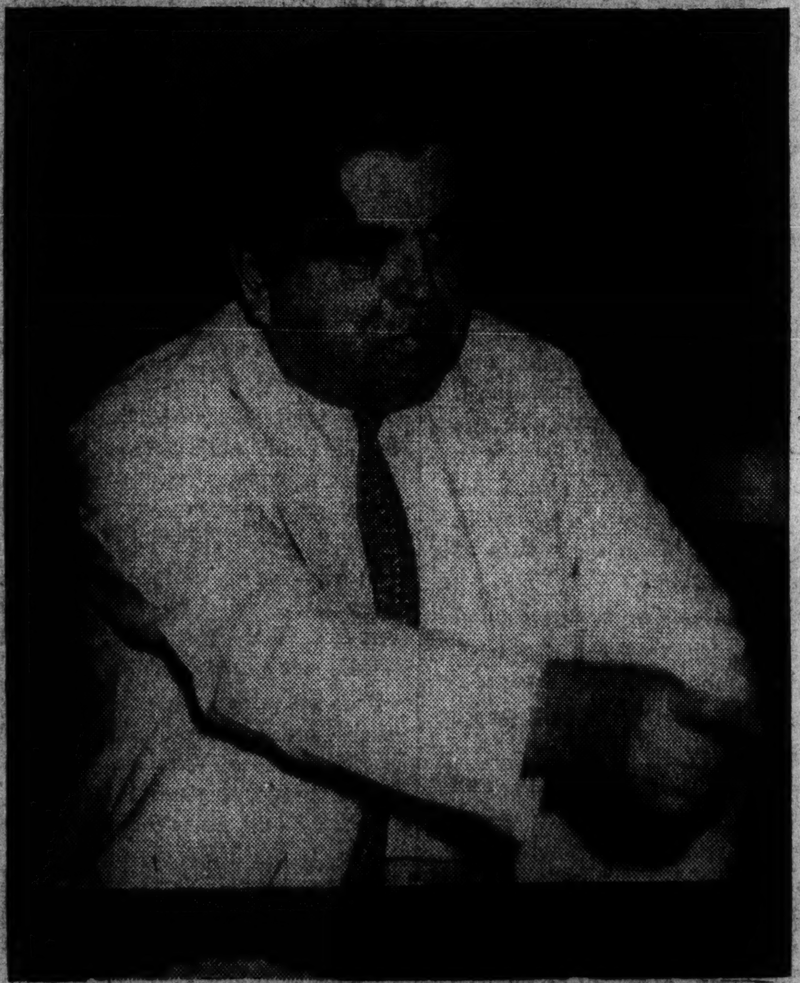
HENRY WALLACE SECY
U S DEPT OF AGRIC
WASHINGTON D C

ACT NOW TO SAVE LABOR ACT



Lewis says, "Action now is imperative."

The fight to protect labor's rights under the Wagner Act has entered a new and crucial stage with the introduction of the Smith and Norton Amendments to the Act. These amendments, in the words of John L. Lewis, "'are not only dangerous in themselves, but they represent the opening wedge for the movement to emasculate the Wagner Act, defeat its basic purposes and turn it into an instrument for the suppression of Labor."

The most dangerous of these amendments is Sec. 2 of the Norton Bill on craft units in industry. This amendment would require the National Labor Relations Board in every case to certify a craft unit, no matter how small, if a majority of that craft group demanded it.

This means that the Labor Relations Board would have to allow any splinter craft group, no matter how small, to invade any industrial union, no matter how big, wherever a fraction of craft members could be found who would petition and vote for certification.

A Declaration of War

President Lewis of the CIO, in issuing a clarion call for defeat of these amendments stated about the craft proposal, "It constitutes a declaration of war on the industrial Unions of the CIO. It must be vigorously fought as a threat to the very existence of our organizations. This Norton Bill is the fruit of an unholy intrigue be-

'WAR' DECLARED ON LABOR LAWS

CIO Rallies To Defend NLRA

(Continued from page 1)

tween anti-labor manufacturers and AFL craft leaders blinded by partisan venom. It is a dastardly attempt by AFL leaders and their anti-labor allies to put a competing labor organization (the CIO) out of business through Congressional enactment."

Another Norton amendment would add two more members to the present National Labor Relations Board, making a total of five.

The only reason for this amendment is the desire to pack the Labor Board with anti-union members whose job would be to hand down anti-labor decisions.

The other two Norton amendments, giving employers the right to petition for elections and providing that the Board shall not certify a different union in any plant until a year after a previous certification was made, while not as vicious as the craft and Board packing amendments, are nevertheless dangerous to organized labor.

The Smith amendments to the Act are so sweeping in character that were they enacted they would turn the Wagner Act into an instrument for the destruction of the labor movement rather than for its protection.

Immediate action by all UCAPAWA locals and members is imperative to save the Wagner Act. Every Local should immediately wire the Representatives and Senators from your state. Every member should be encouraged to write personal letters and post cards demanding defeat of the Smith and Norton amendments to Congressmen. Local unions could pay for such postcards and distribute them free to all members with instructions who to write.

Tories Drive to Smash Pay Law

The Barden Amendments to the Wage-Hour Act are a most serious threat to organized and unorganized agricultural and cannery workers.

These amendments, planned and pushed by the biggest food processing plants in America, would strip of all wage and hour protection over one million workers who now come under the meager protection of the Act. Almost all of these workers come under the jurisdiction of the UCAPAWA.

They are meant to return abject poverty to that group of workers which most needs protection against unscrupulous, slave driving, money mad employers.

The Barden Amendments are very simple to understand. In addition to the 250,000 food processing workers who are now exempt from the Act, they would throw all the following workers to the industrial wolves that for years have waxed fat from our sweated labor:

361,000 employees of fruit and vegetable, packing and canning houses, pecan shellers and tobacco handlers;

350,000 employees of the milk industries, including those working in distribution and the manufacture of ice cream and cheese;

125,000 cotton gin, compress and cotton storage workers.

100,000 lumber mill workers;

70,000 sugar, molasses and maple syrup workers;

60,000 poultry slaughtering and stock-yard employees;

105,000 warehouse workers and drivers engaged in handling the above products;

Many smaller groups in addition to those mentioned are to be excluded. Further,

480,000 workers in similar industries are to be exempt from the maximum hour and overtime provisions.

The above figures were officially released by the U.S. Department of Labor and are beyond question accurate.

What It Means

The membership of UCAPAWA can easily realize what this means to our Union, to the pocketbooks of our members—what it means in reduced food on the table for our families, poorer houses and less security than our present already precarious existence.

Immediate action is again imperative. But on these amendments it must be on an even broader scale than our fight against the Smith and Norton amendments to the Wagner Act.

In addition to every Local Union, and every member sending telegrams, letters and postcards to your Congressmen, much more must be done.

Prepare telegrams and resolutions for other Unions to send. Take these Barden amendments up in every CIO Local Union, lodge, fraternal organization in your city and have them send protests. Every UCAPAWA Local should make itself responsible for organizing a fight against these amendments in its community.

There is no time to lose. These amendments are being debated in Washington as you read this story.

Organize Now!

A STATEMENT TO EVERY UCAPAWA RANK AND FILE MEMBER AND TO OFFICERS OF ALL LOCAL UNIONS.

It is the spring of 1940. The next six months are the most favorable of all the year for building our UNION.

We Must Go Forward Now!

A reactionary Congress in Washington is legislating poverty and anti-unionism. Powerful pro-war forces within our government and among our profiteering employers and financiers are preparing public sentiment to plunge America into the blood bath of Europe.

The two go together. The CIO is today the most powerful peace force in America. The reactionaries plan to weaken or destroy the CIO through Congressional enactment. Then WAR.

With every ounce of our united strength we must beat back these attacks against our Unions—against our very lives.

The best defense is an offense. Only a much stronger CIO, a much multiplied membership in UCAPAWA, will give us future security against such sinister attacks and safeguard our already hard fought gains.

Now Is the Time to Organize

Your International headquarters is spending every cent that comes in from Locals on organizing work. We believe *now* is the time to spend it.

Every District in the International is spending its entire income on organization. They believe *now* is the time to organize.

But these efforts aren't enough. They only make a start.

I know that every Local Union in our International has some fine officers and many fine rank and file members. You have experience in our Union—in our industry. Many of our Locals have active and growing treasuries that are not being used. Remember that our Local Unions keep as much money in their treasuries as the National Office and Districts get combined.

I don't know of a single Local Union in our International that has organized all the workers in our jurisdiction in the locality. Every Local without exception could do organizing work.

In this period so critical for us all and for our Union I am appealing directly to the rank and file members and Local officers. The best organizing work in the past in our Union has been done by the rank and file Union members, by up and coming Local Unions. Now all members and all Local Unions must pitch in.

I propose to every Local Union that at your earliest meeting the matter of ORGANIZATION be the main point on the order of business. List the unorganized plants and workers in your locality. Resolve to start organizing them now. Elect an organization committee of your best members and officers. Get the cooperation of every rank and file member. Vote appropriations from your treasury to finance your drive.

If your treasury is low organize special money raising affairs to build an organizing fund. Get help from other CIO Unions and organizers in your vicinity. If you need organizing materials, application blanks, UCAPAWA buttons, etc., write the International office.

THEN GO OUT AND DO THE JOB.

This is the only way we can beat back our enemies that would cut our throats. This is the only way to ensure peace for America in a war maddened world. This is the only way to build our Union into an impregnable fortress against all attacks.

LET EVERY LOCAL RESOLVE TO DOUBLE ITS MEMBERSHIP!

ORGANIZE THE UNORGANIZED NOW!

Yours for a stronger Union,

DONALD HENDERSON,

General President.

Hits Argo Whitewash

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a blistering minority report Edwin S. Smith, NLRB Board member, slammed the decision handed down by the Board on the long pending Argo Corn Products Refining Company case.

Mr. Smith, pointed to the fact that the phony Employees Association claimed 60 per cent of the Argo employees only five days after the Association was organized and that the company immediately granted the Association sole bargaining rights.

"It is incredible, stated Mr. Smith, "that the association could have made such rapid progress in the plant. Especially in the face of the company rule forbidding plant solicitation without respondent's (company's) encouragement and support."

Lashing out again in his summary statement, board member Smith declared "I would issue an appropriate order requiring respondents to cease and desist from its unfair labor practices and to withdraw recognition from the Association as a representative of its employees and disestablish it as such representative."

John Schmies, UCAPAWA representative in Chicago, has informed the National Office that he has already conferred with NLRB representatives in Chicago and that the date of the election would soon be fixed.

Local 295 Will Negotiate Contract

SILVER CREEK, N. Y. — Josephine Tramontanta, active Secretary of Cannery Local 295 in Western New York State, reports that negotiations with Silver Creek Preserving Co. for a new agreement will begin in a month or so.

The local has requested organizer John Hess to assist them in securing an improved contract.

NOTICE

Don't forget to take up President Henderson's appeal to Locals at your next meeting.

UCAPAWA

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

UCAPAWA NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing &
Allied Workers of America, Affiliated with
Congress of Industrial Organizations

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Imperial Valley Bows To CIO in 18 Elections

Fruit and vegetable packingshed workers of Arizona and California reaped the rewards of many years of hard struggle when they chalked up eighteen victories in NLRB elections held in various plants during the months of January and February of this year.

The total number of workers for which UCAPAWA Local 78 won bargaining rights is over 1000. Several more elections where run offs are necessary are also expected to go CIO.

Some of the packing houses where Local 78 is now entrenched are: Charles Freedman, 161 workers; Smith-Thornburg Co., 57 workers; Farley Fruit Co., 58 workers; American Fruit Growers, Inc., 71 workers; A. H. Produce Co., with 78 workers, and Fred G. Hilvert Co., with 58 workers.

Improved wage and working conditions for all its members is the next goal of Local 78 in this long fight to establish their Union.

Enrico Cigar Strike Strong

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Members of Cigar Local 273 are continuing their months old strike against the Enrico Company with unabated vigor and determination.

The Company which for years has been under agreement with the Union attempted to close down its New York factory and move into the sweatshop haven of Passaic, New Jersey where it could cut wage rates by more than one third.

The Union called a strike and established picket lines before all the principal tobacco stores in New York City handling the Enrico Cigar. Then when the Company opened its new factory in Passaic the Union sent a crew of its pickets along. These pickets are on duty every day before the run away plant.

The Company has lost a great deal of its business but still hopes to starve the Union into withdrawing the picket lines. But even though it is costing Local 273 large sums of money to maintain pickets out of town as well as in New York City—the strike will continue until Enrico comes back where he ran from.

One feature of this strike which illustrates the splendid solidarity between tobacco workers, whether they are AFL or CIO was the sending of $120.00 by the AFL cigar makers in Tampa, Florida to Local 273 to help the strikers.

Money is badly needed to continue this fight. Locals are requested to send donations to Armando Ramirez, Secretary, Cigar Makers Local 273, 241 East 84th Street, New York City, N. Y.

$50,000 Pay Boost Won in Planters

A contract was signed on Tuesday, April 16th, between the United Candy and Nutpackers Union, Local 232, CIO, and Planters Nut and Chocolate Company, the largest peanut concern in the world, for its main plant in Suffolk, Virginia. This new contract, which marks the third since collective bargaining relations were established in the Fall of 1937, covers approximately 1,000 employees, about 650 Negro and 350 white, when the plant operates at full capacity.

The highlight of the new contract was the granting of wage increases of 10% to 11% for about 90% of the employees in the plant. The remaining employees will for the most part receive increases of from one per cent to five per cent. It is estimated by the company that these increases for one year will cost $44,000 for all the employees coming under the contract. The Union estimates also that this sum, added to the increases the company is making to maintenance and other employees exempted from the contract, as a result of the general wage scale rise in the plant, will bring the total cost of the increases for one year to more than $50,000.

Streamline Seniority

Another outstanding feature of the contract was the "stream-lining" of the seniority provisions to conform to the seasonal nature of the industry in a large and complex plant. Seniority changes were worked out which met the desire of the Union to give more protection in employment to the year-round workers, and met the desire of the company to assure a stable year-round efficient production staff.

Union Shop Stewards are the last to be laid off and the first to be rehired in their departments, which gives them full protection in voicing the grievances that may arise in the plant. The company, to assure maximum efficient operation in certain departments may designate 15 utility employees also having a preferred seniority.

Grievance Setup

The grievance machinery of the last year's contract, having proved satisfactory to the union and the company, was retained without any basic changes. The 40 hour week, with time and a half for overtime was likewise retained. Various other provisions relating to health, sanitation, and management of the plant were retained from the previous contract.

The contract takes effect on May 1st and may be terminated after a year if either party gives 60 days' notice to this effect prior to the end of the then current term.

The contract was signed by Mr. A. Obici for the company. It was signed for the union by its negotiating committee, consisting of two Negro officers, two white officers, and the union District President. Those signing were Edward Peters, Va.-Md. district president of the United Cannery, Agricultural and Packing Workers, Leroy Harris, president of the local. Robbie M. Young, shop chairlady, Lottie Mary Holland, shop steward, and Wm. T. Everett, shop steward.

Cigar Local Strikes

NEW YORK, N. Y.—A Local of 250 Italian Cigar Makers, employees of the DeNobili Cigar Company in Long Island City, N. Y. are now in their third week of strike.

This new UCAPAWA Local struck when the Company reopened its Long Island City factory and started to hire workers from Connecticut and New Jersey in an attempt to break the Union.

Two Conferences between the Union Committee headed by Armando Ramirez, in charge of Cigar organization for District 7, Company representatives and Mayor LaGuardia's labor secretary have been held in the City Hall. The Company has refused to grant the Union even elementary consideration in these conferences and the strikers are settling down for a long siege.

1300 Vote CIO in California

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—In an NLRB election held here February 29th, among 1,300 employees of the California Walnut Growers Association, UCAPAWA Local 92 emerged victorious.

The election came as the result of an NLRB decision handed down earlier that the company must withdraw recognition from the company union, refrain from discouraging membership in Local 92, and reinstate with back pay eight workers discharged in 1937.

Plans for negotiating an agreement between the company and the union as soon as the shelling plants start work on the 1940 crop are now being made.

CIO Croppers Get Gov't Aid

The government program in Southeast Missouri is beginning to materialize as a result of active pressure by the union.

A grant of $2,290 has been made by the Farm Security Administration to the families in the camp at Polar Bluff, Mo. Definite promises have been made that a co-operative project would be instituted about August. In the meantime, the plucky residents of the camp are keeping busy in their cooperative garden and in raising and canning food-stuffs.

In a special report to National Headquarters, Rev. Owen H. Whitfield, UCAPAWA Int'l Vice-President, stated, "I have just succeeded in getting the FSA to take optionally, 2,644 acres of land in New Madrid County, and 1,500 acres in Scott County."

Thus the fruits of the militant struggle by the Missouri sharecroppers and day laborers in 1938 are being born today. As a result of that demonstration, a whole nation was shocked by the knowledge of conditions previously unsuspected.

The value of organized protest is an important lesson which the Missouri pioneers of the CIO have taught the sharecroppers, tenants and day laborers throughout the country.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROCESSING

WILLIAM DOWNS

$1,000 Back Pay Won In Phillip's

WASHINGTON — The NLRB announced today the settlement of the case against the Phillips Packing Co., Cambridge, Maryland. The UCAPAWA first filed charges against the Phillips Packing Company in July, 1937 and the case has been pending since.

The terms of the settlement include: 1) Immediate dissolution of the Cambridge Home Union. 2) Payment of a total of $1,000 in back wages to four UCAPAWA members, William Downs, Dick Phillips, Harry LeCompte and William Sessoms. 3) The company agrees to cease and desist from interfering with union organization among its employees in the future.

Immediately following the NLRB announcement General Secretary-Treasurer Howard met with a group of leaders of Local 82 in Cambridge, including the four brothers mentioned above.

Preserve Workers Strike

PHILADELPHIA—The Negotiating Committee of the American Preserve Unit of Local 186 has served notice on the company that a $5.40 weekly wage increase, establishing a minimum of $30.60 for a 40-hour week, paid holidays and two weeks vacation must be written into the contract.

Calling attention to the fact that the company has been able to acumulate a reserve fund of over $50,000 in the last few years, the local officers maintain that the company is well able to give the increase demanded. This reserve fund, the Local points out, is the balance net profit earned by the company after all other obligations are paid.

12-cent Increase

The present wage scales in effect at the American Preserve Co. are based on a minimum of 56.5 cents per hour. The increase demanded would, therefore, raise the minimum wage to 75 cents. The total annual cost to the company, on the basis of the 12-cent increase, would amount to about $18,000.

The Negotiating Committee for the union consists of Walt Sammler, president of Local 186; Bill Robbins, vice-president, and Samuel O. Scachter, local business agent. Both Sammler and Robbins are also District 7 Board members.

The Committee has set a deadline for Wednesday, April 17. Since the company has continued to stall, the strike goes into effect today.

Has your Local sent telegrams protesting the amendments to the Wagner Act and the Wage-Hour Law?

Local 207 Asks Pay Hike

NEW YORK—United Food Packers Local 207, one of the largest Locals in District 7 has prepared a new contract for submission to the Hills Brothers Company, packers of Dromedary Dates, May 1.

The new contract, which will cover 700 union members, proposes wage increases of approximately 30 per cent for the plant as a whole, plus two weeks vacation with pay, all holidays with pay, improvement in seniority rights and overtime rates, and a continuation of the closed shop provisions included in the expiring agreement.

Local 207, in addition to drawing up its new contract. has also recently established a baseball team outfitted with uniforms, bats and balls which hopes to make a mark for itself this summer in union sport circles.

The Education Committee of the Local is now putting out a regular monthly bulletin for its members which already shows promise of becoming one of the finest in the International.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Issues of the UCAPAWA NEWS have been delayed in recent months because organizing work has been given preference from the treasury.

Future issues will be more regular we hope, especially if Locals get busy with the Local organizing drives recommended by Pres. Henderson on Page Three.

Locals and members are requested to send in stories and pictures of all activities to the NEWS regularly.

—The Editor.

CIO Forces Pay Boost at Campbells

The Campbell Soup Co. has announced wage increases ranging from one to three cents per hour for production employees in Camden, N. J.

This announcement comes as the first of a campaign by UCAPAWA Local 80 for a flat 70c per hour wage rate for the men.

It also indicates that the rapid growth in membership of Local 80 during the last few months has been causing considerable alarm to the labor-hating Campbell Soup Co. The obvious purpose of the wage increases was to stop the growing enrollment of membership into Local 80.

Phony "Charity"

What actually happened was that the Local collected more initiation fees in the last month than ever before. The workers saw through the phony philanthropy of the company and recognized those wage increases as a victory for the union.

Similar tactics were used by the Continental Can Co., situated right in one of the Campbell's Soup buildings. When Continental learned that its workers were streaming into Local 80, it immediately granted wage increases ranging from two to 14 cents per hour. These wage increases were timed to take place the very evening before the NLRB election. But when the votes were counted, Local 80 was still a strong winner. The very thought of a CIO shop right next door must have given the Campbell Co. the horrors. So they took over the Continental plant, lock, stock and barrel, thus ending negotiations between the Continental Co. and the union.

Helps CIO

But whatever satisfaction this maneuver gives to the Campbell Co., it will be at best a short-lived one. By bringing the strongly pro-CIO can workers into the Campbell family, they are only hastening the organization of the entire plant.

A general membership meeting of Local 80 has been called for Saturday April 20. General Secretary Michael Howard and Int'l Vice-President Leif Dahl will address the meeting.

Food Company To Use Union Label

DETROIT—Local 58 of the United Cannery and Agricultural Workers (CIO) started off its Detroit drive here this week with the announcement by Organizer Harold Lane of a contract with the J. J. Glielow Co., manufacturers of "Aunt Jane" food products, which stipulates use of the union label on all products of the company.

The contract, providing wage increases of from 5 to 10 cents an hour, puts these workers close to the highest paid in the canning industry. The company will begin using the union label on its products, which are principally salad dressing, preserves and pickle products, as soon as mechanical arrangements can be made, Lane said.

CIO—3 TO 1

Negotiations resulting in the agreement followed an NLRB election several weeks ago in which the CIO received 45 votes to 7 for the AFL and 10 for no union.

In addition to the wage increases and use of the union label, the agreement provides:

Paid vacations.

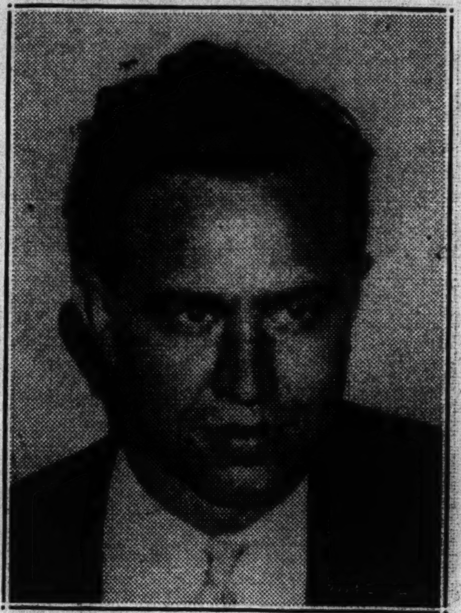
Three paid holidays per year.

Seniority.

Preferential shop and checkoff.

A voice in determining all plant rules and rate of production.

The drive will be extended to take in horrors. So they took over the Continen- employes of all Detroit canneries.



HAROLD LANE

Requests for organization from these workers should be referred to the CIO Regional Office, 803 Hofmann Bldg., CAdillac 7673.

La Choy Signs

Three weeks ago Local 58 signed an agreement with La Choy Food Products, the largest packer of Oriental Foods in America, with distributors in every large city in the country. The company has accepted the union label and as we go to press the latest statement of the company is that the UCAPAWA union-made insignia will be placed on La Choy's new labels coming out in June.

The workers obtained many benefits in the contract, among them being seniority rights, vacations with pay, holidays with pay, increased wages, preferential shop and accumulative seniority in case of war.

Harold Lane, president of District 5, commenting on organizing perspectives in Detroit, stated: "Local 58 is an amalgamated local and all workers organized in Detroit will come into it. This local will in time be able to carry its own organizational work forward, while the District and International can concentrate on new and virgin territory. The people in Local 58 have already developed pride in their Local and have set up an organizing committee, which is contacting other workers in unorganized plants."

Executive officers elected by Local 58 are: Everett Wetherholt, president; Joe Kramarik, vice-president; Ray Meyers, recording secretary; Kay Medwid, Secretary-Treasurer; Bill McFarland, three-year trustee; Steve Zdanov, two-year trustee; Harry Knechtges, one-year trustee; Tom Baker, doorman; and Vic Herp, sergeant-at-arms.

COTTON

MISS KATHRYN LEWIS welcomes Rev. O. H. Whitfield at Washington benefit banquet for National Negro Congress.
Left to right: Rev. Arthur D. Gray, Washington Negro Congress; Rev. O. H. Whitfield, UCAPAWA Intl. Vice-President; Michael Howard, Genl. Sec-Treas., UCAPAWA; A. Philip Randolph, President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Miss Kathryn Lewis.

A Message from Arkansas

We, the people of Arkansas, have been struggling and struggling and yet we have gotten no where. We as laboring people, we as poor people, it is high time for us to wake up. It is time for us to stand up on our own feet. It is time for us to organize ourselves. Can't you see that conditions are getting worse every day?

You—the farmers—can't get your government benefit checks. You know that they are taken from you.

You—the day laborers—you can't get over 75 cents a day for your work. Are you satisfied with that? Can you feed your family out of 75 cents a day, and buy shoes and clothes, and pay from $6 to $8 a month for house rent.

And to all Local Secretaries: When sending your reports to Washington you must send a copy of your report to your State Secretary at Turrell, Arkansas. His address is P.O. Box 236. His name is Henry Chance. And all Locals that are not functioning must turn in their charters to the Executive Officers. The secretaries of such Locals must stop collecting dues from the members, because that is a serious violation.

Written By:

Henry Chance	**J. B. Adams**
Jake Leonard	**E. D. Harris**
J. H. Fox	**Elvira Dale**

Locals Plan For Negro Congress

Letters are pouring in every day from UCAPAWA locals throughout the South indicating that extensive plans are being made for a large attendance at the forthcoming National Negro Congress, to be held in Washington, D. C., on April 26, 27 and 28.

Rev. Owen H. Whitfield, international vice-president, and president of the Missouri Agricultural Workers Council, is scheduled on the program to deliver the keynote speech at the special farm session. Rev. Whitfield will portray the problems of the Negro farm population throughout the country and what the various federal agencies are doing to assist them. He will outline the program of the UCAPAWA as regards legislation for cotton farmers, sharecroppers and day laborers.

Equal Rights

In its official call, the National Negro Congress demanded an end to the denial of the fundamental rights of citizenship to the Negro people.

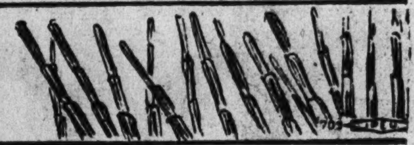
"Our job," stated the Call, "is to unite the Negro people as never before in a struggle to beat back the attacks upon us. Our job is to join with the great labor movement and the many progressive-minded white Americans in a combined effort to defend democracy in America."

CIO President John L. Lewis will attend and deliver the principal speech at the Congress.

NOTICE

Don't forget to take up President Henderson's important organizing appeal to Locals at your next meeting.

SUGAR



LEE BACA

UCAPAWA Fights for Sugar Act

In a brief submitted to Marvin Jones, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, in connection with hearings just held on proposed amendments to the Sugar Act of 1937, UCAPAWA urged that the Sugar Act be extended for a period of two more years, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the third annual convention of District 3 on March 18, 1940.

The Communings amendment, about which much testimony centered, was blasted by the UCAPAWA statement on the following counts:

1. **The increase in beet sugar quotas would result in more small farmers growing beets on ever poorer land, at a net loss. Only the bankers, who would preempt benefit payments as interest on crop loans, would benefit.**
2. **Child labor restrictions would be abolished.**
3. **Unemployment among Sugar Refinery workers, organized in CIO Local Industrial Unions and the AFL, would be caused by allowing more refined sugar to come into the U.S. from the low wage areas of Puerto Rico, Hawaii and the Virgin Islands.**
4. **Consumer protection would be wiped out and sugar prices would soar.**

The UCAPAWA statement called for a complete investigation of the Sugar industry by Congress, showing how, under the Sugar Act, processors were able to make money hand over fist, while small growers generally lost money and beet and cane field workers were unable to obtain the fair and reasonable wages specifically provided for in the Act.

Beet Workers Map Organizing Drives

DENVER, Colorado—The Third Annual Convention of District 3 held here March 16-17 outlined a detailed program for work of the UCAPAWA in the Rocky Mountain sugar beet area.

Reports from delegates showed very good work had been done in handling relief cases and that practically all union members in northern Colorado had their relief cases settled satisfactorily.

Henderson Speaks

General President Donald Henderson, who attended the convention, spoke very sharply about workers who refuse to pay their dues into the union. He reminded the 70 delegates and visitors that during the past five years thousands of dollars had been spent trying to organize and bring benefits to beet workers. During this time, he said, the beet workers had repaid but a very, very small part of this in terms of dues. President Henderson warned the delegates that this would not continue; the beet workers either had to pay dues or the International would cut off all support to the District. President Henderson praised the work of the delegates present for their sincere efforts to change the dues payment situation in the District and their successful work in bringing benefits to the members.

The beet workers were reminded that during the past two years a total wage increase of about $2,000,000 had been won in the Rocky Mountain area, largely through unions of the UCAPAWA. Delegates Lee Baca, Henry Garcia, Vincente Vigil and Judd Manso spoke in support of President Henderson.

A resolution outlining the main points for a union beet labor contract and union working rules was adopted. A resolution instructing the District to issue union time books to help union members keep a record of their work was adopted.

The Convention adopted resolutions covering all matters of importance to beet workers and labor and concluded their sessions with a unanimous determination to go back into the country and build more and powerful Locals of the UCAPAWA.

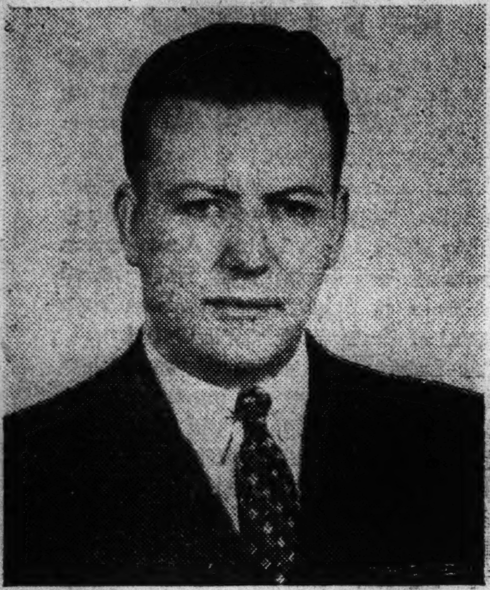
The District officers elected were: President, Clyde Johnson, Local 218; Vice-Presidents, Otto Wulf, Local 158 and Henry Garcia, Local 51; Secretary-Treasurer, L. M. Baca, Local 28, P. O. Box 226, La Salle, Colorado. The new District Executive Board elected consists of Telesforo Perez, Local 34; Henry Dietrich, Local 331; Amos Baca, Local 28; Fidel Herrera, Local 200; Vincente Vigil, Local 28. The Board of Trustees elected consists of Judd Manso, Local 331; M. Contreras, Local 6; Jesus Correa, Local 218.

Canadians Get $2.00 Pay Raise

Sticking to their just demands in spite of terrific war pressure, Alberta Beet Workers Union Local 103, UCAPAWA, has just anounced the winning of a $2 per acre increase for its membership this coming season. In addition, a 10-cent increase in bonus over 10 tons of beets was also secured.

Brother Wm. Repka, Local Secretary, declared, "The $2 increase opens up tremendous possibilities for organizing the union here."

FISH CANNING and SEAFOOD



Conrad Espe, Intl. Vice-Pres.

Ickes Hits Labor

Carrying through his program of conservation without regard for its effect on the workers involved, Secretary Ickes issued an order limiting the salmon cannery season, as well as fishing areas, which will result in considerable unemployment for fish cannery workers, fishermen, seamen, machinists, etc. The 1940 regulations of the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries will curtail fishing operations up to as high as 50 per cent and in addition will shorten the time alloted for the catching of fish in many areas, it is estimated.

CORRECTION

Brother Rojo, President of Local 7, Seattle, has requested UCAPAWA NEWS to correct the statement made in the February issue to the effect that Brother Rojo had received his degree as a Doctor of Philosophy. We gladly acknowledge this correction, with apologies to Brother Rojo for the error.

AFL Claims Fantastic, Espe Tells Labor Board

In a brief presented to the National Labor Relations Board, International Vice-President Conrad Espe refuted the claims made by the "Alaska Fish Cannery Workers Union of the Pacific," AFL, that it represented any substantial number of cannery workers. After showing in detail that the claims made by the AFL group were fraudulent and refusing to agree to the holding of any consent election, Espe contended that "the claim of the petitioning (AFL) union is fantastic, without foundation of fact," and further, that "they have no membership among the regular employees of the canned salmon industry." After exposing the fact that the AFL was claiming contracts with companies that are non-operative, Espe requested the National Labor Relations Board to dismiss the petition of the AFL group.

UCAPAWA Backs Filipino Bill

In a brief presented before the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, UCAPAWA General Secretary Howard defended the Marcantonio Bill H. R. 7239 which would enable Filipinos now resident in the United States to become naturalized.

After describing the unjust discrimination leveled against Filipinos in all walks of life, Howard stated, "The effort to keep the Filipino in an inferior low wage category is an attack directed against the standard of living of all American workers." Howard's statement highlighted the stormy conclusion of the three days of hearings, during which the American Federation of Labor, represented by Paul Scharrenburg, opposed granting Filipinos the right to become naturalized.

AFL Treason

Congressman Marcantonio, sponsor of the bill, accused Representative Kramer, California, of alien-baiting and filibustering to kill H.R. 7239. Congressman Marcantonio also deplored the position taken by the AFL which, he stated, would only result in the undermining of the standard of living of all workers.

The hearings on the Marcantonio Bill lasted from April 10 to 12. The House Committee did not indicate what recommendation it would bring in to Congress. It is urgent, therefore, that letters be sent at once to Chairman Dickstein and members of the House Committee on Naturalization and Immigration demanding their favorable report on H.R. 7239.

ATTENTION
Financial Secretaries

A number of Local Unions have gotten behind in their per capita payments to the National Office, and a number of others are requesting that payments be temporarily postponed due to heavy demands on Local treasuries at this time.

President Henderson's message in this issue should be enough to convince every one that now and for the next six or eight months is exactly when the National office needs funds the most.

It is therefore necessary to insist that all Local Unions delinquent in per capita tax payments either pay up without delay or make arrangements with the National Office to pay as soon as possible.

MICHAEL HOWARD,
General Secretary-Treasurer.

Union Adopts New Seniority System

SAN FRANCISCO—Asking all men to register early with Dispatcher Sam Johnson, the curtailment committee of Alaska Cannery Workers' Union, Local No. 7, has worked out a dispatching point system for dispatching. It is not yet known how many canneries will operate or how many men will be needed.

The point system, based on the nationality quota of 1936 and approved by the membership, is as follows:

1—500 points for members who served as pickets in the 1936 strike, worked in the office, or in Alaska in the years 1936, 1937, 1938, and 1939.

2—450 points for members who served as pickets in the 1936 strike, worked in Alaska 1936, but have missed one year since.

3—400 points for members who served as pickets in the 1936 strike, worked in Alaska in 1936, but missed two years since. Also, those who picketed in 1936, but went in 1937, 1938, or 1939.

4—350 points—Members who have served as ACWU organizers, board of trustees, worked in office, delegates to councils, the executive board, and as union delegates. (This to apply to those who have joined since 1937.)

5—300 points for members who did not picket in 1936, but worked in Alaska 1936, 1937, 1938, and 1939.

6—200 points for members who did not picket in 1936, and have missed a year or two since 1936.

Kitchen Personnel—Men with highest points shall be dispatched to their regular jobs.

Tallymen—Men shall keep their former classifications; and shall have prior right to their regular jobs.

Men who signed pledge in 1937 for union organization shall be dispatched first.

Men in good standing in 1938 and 1939 shall be dispatched next, by order of book number.

Has your Local sent telegrams protesting the amendments to the Wagner Act and the Wage-Hour Law?

Vicente O. Navea, Intl. Vice-Pres.

Gerge Woolf, Intl. Vice-Pres.

Alaska Unions Get Bargaining Rights

For the first time since the establishment of the salmon cannery industry, the Alaska Packers Association conceded exclusive bargaining agency to the UCAPAWA Fish Cannery Unions, covering approximately 7000 workers, without going through a bitter and prolonged fight.

Negotiating for the UCAPAWA Fish Cannery Unions are George Woolf, international vice president, and Vicente Rendon from Local 5; Ernest Mangaoang and Roman Kapati, Local 226; and Conrad Espe, Vincent O. Navea and T. A. Ropo, Local 7. The UCAPAWA locals in Alaska have empowered Seattle Local 7 to negotiate for them.

The Alaska packers are offering the 1939 contract to the unions. Negotiations are expected to come to a head by the end of April.

General President Donald Henderson is in Seattle working with the Negotiating Committee.

Attention Beet Workers!

District 3 of UCAPAWA asks the cooperation of all beet workers in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and other Southern states, and Local Unions of UCAPAWA in these states.

In Colorado there are enough beet workers to handle the entire crop. If outside workers come in they will help the sugar companies break the union hiring program.

Extra beet labor is needed in Wyoming, Nebraska and Montana, but the union is demanding that all resident beet workers be placed on jobs first.

If the migratory beet workers try to push ahead of the resident beet workers they not only break the union but they tear down wage scales.

Cooperate with District 3 for a decent hiring program, higher wages and better contracts and conditions.

Get in touch with the local union nearest to you when you get a contract. Here are the addresses for your convenience:

Local Union 155, Billings, Montana, P. O. Box 648; Local Union 43, Grand Island, Nebraska, Manuel Puente, president; Local Union 65, Torrington Wyoming, P. O. Box 321; Local Union 247, Wheatland, Wyoming, P. O. Box 432.

News of the Month

APRIL 1: The New York Transport Workers Union, CIO, won a complete victory in its life and death struggle for recognition of its Union Shop agreements on local subway transit lines when they are merged under city ownership and operated as one super-transportation system.

APRIL 2: CIO calls on Congress to immediately halt WPA layoffs. A minimum of 3,000,000 WPA jobs demanded for the unemployed.

APRIL 3: House Labor Committee approves amendment to National Labor Relations Act crippling industrial unions. (See Story front page.)

APRIL 4: The Geyer Anti-Poll Tax Bill received unqualified support from all wings of organized labor. Spokesmen from the CIO, AFL and railroad brotherhoods appeared at hearings by House Judiciary Sub-Committee.

APRIL 5: CIO opens fight on Norton Amendments to Wagner Act, approved by House Labor Committee April 3. "The Norton Bill," declared John L. Lewis, "is the fruit of an unholy intrigue between anti-labor manufacturers and the AFL craft leaders blinded by partisan venom."

APRIL 6: John L. Lewis hurls Third Party threat at Democratic and Republican politicians. "Heed Labor demands or lose its support!" said Lewis at a huge Mine Workers rally in West Virginia.

APRIL 7: Attorney General Robert H. Jackson admitted that the Department of Justice had contemplated using the 1940 census for what Senator Charles H. Tobey called "the most complete police list in the history of the world."

APRIL 8: Republic Steel Corporation lost its attempt to have the NLRB decision set aside by the United States Supreme Court. Tom (I've Got Guns) Girdler must now reinstate 5,000 CIO workers with back pay totalling more than $5,000,000

APRIL 9: Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Workers Union, Local 78, UCAPAWA, is certified by NLRB to represent all workers of the Thor Packing Company, Holtville, California, following a vote of 21 to 9 for the Union.

APRIL 10: UCAPAWA testifies before House Committee on Naturalization and Immigration in support of Marcantonio Filipino Bill. (Story on page 10).

APRIL 11: CIO warns of new depression coming in June and sets total unemployment at 11,880,000. In its statistical monthly publication, "The Economic Outlook," the CIO shows that "farm communities can be prosperous only when industrial workers are getting wages sufficient to consume the farmer's cash crops."

APRIL 12: All labor commemorated 30th year imprisonment of James B. McNamara, world famous labor martyr.

APRIL 13: Senator Edward Burke, Nebraska's gift to the National Association of Manufacturers, and a vicious enemy of labor, was defeated by CIO and LNPL votes for renomination.

APRIL 14: The Southern Conference for Human Welfare, held in Chattanooga, slams Southern poll tax. UCAPAWA representative Harry Koger, from Northeast Texas, describes work of Union in improving conditions and protecting civil liberties of sharecroppers, tenants and day laborers.

APRIL 15: UCAPAWA demands continuation of Sugar Act with greater protection for beet workers—in testimony before House Committee on Agriculture.

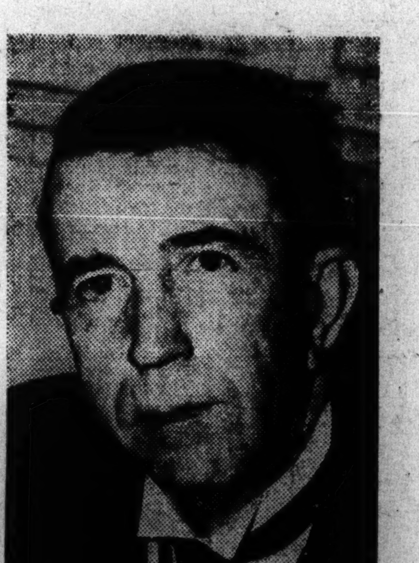
APRIL 16: All Southern Negro Youth Congress begins sessions at New Orleans.

APRIL 17: American Preserve Workers (UCAPAWA LU No. 186) strikes for 12 cents per hour increases in Philadelphia.

APRIL 18: Peanut local 232, wins $50,000 annual increases. (Story pg. 5.)

APRIL 19: Phillips Packing Company, Cambridge, Maryland, must pay $1,000 back wages to UCAPAWA members and disestablish company union.

APRIL 20: Auto Workers Union, CIO, trounces AFL and Homer Martin by 4-1 vote in General Motors NLRB elections. Win bargaining rights over 120,000 workers.



REP. HOWARD SMITH

REP. MARTIN DIES

Two good reasons why the Poll Tax should be repealed in eight Southern States. Rep. Howard Smith of Virginia, who is trying to kill the Wagner Act, and Rep. Martin Dies of Texas, who is trying to destroy militant Trade Unions through his phoney un-Americanism Committee. Both of these anti-labor Congressmen were elected by only 10% or less of the population in their Districts.

Workers' Education

California School Is Big Success

A one month school for agricultural worker members of UCAPAWA was recently completed at a camp 30 miles South of Los Angeles.

Twenty-two union leaders from Locals all over the State attended. Among them were four women, three Mexicans and one Negro.

Competent Elizabeth Sasuly was selected by President Henderson to direct the classes. Three courses were taught:

"Trade Union Problems" was in charge of Wyman Hicks, UCAPAWA field organizer for agricultural Locals.

"Trade Union History" was taught by Amy Shechter, widely known labor authority.

"Economics of California Agriculture" was handled by Elizabeth Sasuly.

Each day there were lectures, individual study, group discussions, and speaking before the class.

Prominent CIO leaders of California, such as Lou Goldblatt, Sec. of the State CIO Council, and Wyndham Mortimer, United Auto Workers Union leader, gladly gave their time to give lectures.

Everything taught at the school was practical. The students were all workers and for them "education" meant knowing how better to improve the lives of Californias agricultural workers.

Drawing up and mimeographing leaflets was an important part of the education taught, and the ones turned out at the school were all first rate.

The school is now over and all the students have gone back home. No one got any degrees or diplomas. But every worker who attended is now armed with the knowledge that it takes to build stronger and better UCAPAWA Unions which will raise the miserable wage and working conditions of farm labor.

The Union is now considering setting up two permanent educational committees, one in Southern California and one in the North, which will conduct classes once every week or so.

Education Notes

A growing attention to education work among members can be noted in several sections of the country. In addition to the two full time schools organized by the International and Districts, several Local Unions are issuing excellent Local shop papers. Among these are Local 207 in New York City, Local 186 in Philadelphia, Penna., and Local 80 in Camden, N. J. The California agricultural Locals issue regularly a mimeographed paper on news throughout the state dealing with their problems.

District 7 has appointed William Robbins education director of the District and voted appropriations to conduct the work.

The National headquarters urges all Districts and all Locals to undertake more educational work. Send us reports of what you are doing.

Arkansas Croppers Visit Capital

Finding a means of livelihood for 2,500 sharecroppers in Arkansas who are unable to obtain land or relief was the subject of a conference between Lieutenant-Governor Robert Bailey and representatives of the UCAPAWA Sharecroppers organization.

The delegation consisted of John Day International Representative, E. D. Harris, vice-president, and Henry Chance, secretary, Arkansas Agricultural Workers Council, UCAPAWA.

Harris stated that "these 2,500 people are without any means of subsistence whatever. They are living in cotton towns all through the delta, picking up a few odd jobs and getting a little food from relatives and friends. Their places on the farms have been taken by tractors."

The union representatives urged the State of Arkansas to settle dispossessed sharecroppers on land taken over by the State for unpaid taxes.

At a conference with FSA officials in Little Rock, the delegation was informed that a survey is now being made throughout the South to determine the number of people displaced by machinery.

Beet Workers Study Problems

DENVER, Colo.—Two weeks of intensive study of Union problems have sent 22 UCAPAWA beet workers in District 3 back to their home locals better equipped to carry out the program of the union in that area.

The school, lasting for two weeks and having its sessions in the YWCA Building in Denver, consisted of old and young workers who have spent their lives in the beet fields. Two women attended.

These workers, all of them leaders of their Local Unions showed a tremendous enthusiasm and interest for the school. They voluntarily increased the school time from five hours per day to eight hours daily with two additional hours for individual study.

Principay topics taught were:

"Sugar Beet Economy" or how the Great Western Sugar Company milks farmers and workers to make their millions. This was taught by Dr. James Sharp of the WPA Education Bureau.

"Problems of Spanish-Speaking Workers in America," taught by Luisa Moreno, National UCAPAWA Spanish Director.

"UCAPAWA Structure and Problems, and Labor's Non-Partisan League" taught by Clyde Johnson, District 3 president.

In addition Harley Murray of the WPA Education Bureau conducted a "workshop" every day where leaflet writing, stenciling and running off was learned by all the students. Parliamentary procedure and a lecture on the CIO rounded out a very complete two weeks school.

Everyone of these workers came from the fields. They were sent by their locals to Denver to learn how to be better leaders. Every student worked hard at the job because they knew that this school would mean better unions in the field when they got back. President Henderson, who sent Luisa Moreno from Washington to Denver to conduct the school has praised its organization and work and expressed the hope that the locals from which these union leaders were sent will now lead the way before all other locals in the beet States in an organization drive.

NLRB Whitewashes AFL

Tri-State News

MILWAUKEE—Local 191 has been preparing for negotiations for new contracts in the cemeteries. Trouble is expected in only one cemetery, the Forest Home. Local 233, United Candy Workers, will demand a closed shop this spring when its contract expires. The local is determined to get this demand, even if it means strike action.

A city wide organizing committee, composed of active members of both Local 191 and Local 233, will be set up around the first part of May.

BLOOMER AND EAU CLAIR: Local 24 has presented its demand for sole bargaining recognition to the Armour Company condensary. Unless this is granted, an application will be filed with the NLRB for certification.

There have been any number of requests for organizers from condensary workers in this area and Brother De Witt is looking forward to a substantial increase in membership within the next few months.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN: Whitewater Local 236 reports that the Libby, McNeil and Libby Company (condensary) is living up to all the provisions of the contract. There is considerable sentiment for spreading organization to other milk condensary plants of the Armour and Libby, McNeil and Libby companies in central Wisconsin.

Musselman Pays Back Wages to 75

BIGLERVILLE, Penn.—As a result of charges filed by District 7 of the union before the Wages and Hours Board the Musselman Company, one of America's largest apple canneries will be forced to pay back wages to approximately 75 workers in the large Biglerville plant.

District 7 is making plans for increased organizing activity in this notorious sweatshop soon,

California Stooges Get OK from Labor Board

SAN FRANCISCO — The company union set-up under the AFL that prevails throughout most of California's fruit and vegetable canneries was given a whitewash by the NLRB in a recent decision.

Many of our members will remember that in the fall of 1937 when UCAPA WA was first given its International Charter by the CIO, thousands of workers flocked into our ranks. Among them were the majority of the organized cannery workers in California.

Fearing our militant organization, the California Growers and Processors, Inc., and "sell out" Vandeleur, reactionary State President of the A. F. of L., got together and signed a contract covering sixty canneries. At that time Vandeleur did not represent any organized cannery workers. But the A. F. of L. put Charters into these plants, made foremen, bosses' stooges and other rats officers, and blackjacked the workers into joining up.

UCAPAWA filed charges against the AFL and the employers on charges that the contracts were illegal and the AFL Unions were "Company encouraged and dominated."

The NLRB decision which declares that the AFL is a bona fide Union and orders the Companies to desist from discouraging membership in either the AFL or CIO, is one of the worst ever handed down. This decision illustrates the compromising and blacksliding tendency of the Labor Board of late in the face of AFL and reactionary attacks.

However, many of these AFL Local Cannery Unions have in the last two years elected honest rank and file officers and a growing dissatisfaction among the membership with the dictatorial control of Vandeleur holds promise for an honest set up in California canneries in the future.

UCAPAWA Locals and District 2 on the West Coast have repeatedly stated their willingness to co-operate fully with the rank and file and honest Local officers of AFL Cannery Unions in any fight they declare—whether this is against their corrupt State leaders or their anti-labor bosses.

Hearings Set on Wage-Hour Law

In addition to the Barden Amendments, another flanking attack is being made on the Wages and Hours Act by food processors. The first two weeks in May will witness a series of hearings in Washington, D. C. to receive testimony as to whether the "area of production" definition in the Act shall be modified so as to exclude more workers.

Today, "area of production" is defined as any canning or packing establishment hiring less than seven workers and located in the immediate area from which produce is grown, or plants located in towns of less than 2,500 population and drawing their produce from a territory not greater than ten miles around. All workers employed in plants coming within the above definitions are now exempted from the Act. UCAPA WA believes that the above definitions are altogether too broad and exempt altogether too many needy workers.

However the food packers want the definition broadened much further so that additional tens of thousands of workers will be left out of the Act.

UCAPAWA representatives will attend and testify at these hearings. Locals are urged to send resolutions and Statements to Wage-Hour Administrator Col. Philip B. Fleming, Washington, D. C. protesting further exlusion of food packers and canners under the "area of production" clause.

TO HELP YOUR
UNION ORGANIZE,
PAY YOUR DUES NOW.

THE YANKS ARE NOT COMING

What have we to gain,
Besides worry and pain,
A shell-shock brain,
If we join this war?

Why must we go,
To fight a foe
We do not know,
Nor hate at all?

Though war drums are drumming
And rumors are humming,
The Yanks are NOT coming,
The answer is NO!

Let's stick together,
Like birds of a feather,
In fair or foul weather,
Stay out of this war.

Firmly we stand,
Ready to defend,
Our beloved land,
From aggression.

Munition makers,
And war-mongering fakers
Are ready to drag us,
Into this war.

But we are not going.
Though hysteria is growing
And the press keeps on throwing,
Propaganda of war.

Once and for all,
You can hear us call:
The Yanks are NOT coming,
Not coming at all.

O. McAlister.

TO HELP YOUR

UNION ORGANIZE,

PAY YOUR DUES NOW.

April 6, 1917, is the day that Americans shall never forget. Just 23 short years ago Congress voted to get into World War I. Over two million Yanks got free boat rides to bring them "over there," but about 120,000 of them had one-way tickets. Row on row of white wooden crosses, stretching away in all directions as far as the eye could see, mark the spot where these thousands of Americans—sons, fathers, brothers—rest in peace on foreign soil at their journey's end—Flanders Field, France. Flanders Field, France—the dust-bowl of America—where the ashes of 120,000 Americans have returned to dust. World War I taught America many lessons. Now that World War II has begun it is well to review some of those lessons.

First and foremost is the fact that 120,000 Americans were killed for no good reason at all. In addition, over 234,000 Americans were wounded, crippled and maimed as a result of the war. The second lesson is that over a thousand new millionaires were created during 1917 and 1918.

It's not a pretty picture that the above facts paint. Thousands of Americans being killed and wounded while Wall Street builds mountains of profit. But, whether it's a pretty picture or not, it's a true one. And what is more, the American people know it.

Our Wall Street patriots have again begun to agitate for us to "Save the Democratic Nations." President Roosevelt seems to be playing their game. He is involving America more and more in the problems abroad and has not recently made one single statement calling for American neutrality. But the workers of America, who will have to fight any war are already saying, "THE YANKS ARE NOT COMING!"

New Locals Chartered

Local 158, United Cracker Workers
Chartered February 1, 1940.
Type of Work: All workers in Merchant's Biscuit Company producing cookies and crackers.
Otto Wulf, Financial Secretary,
5194 Beach Court,
Denver, Colorado.

Local 332, UCAPAWA.
Chartered February 10, 1940.
Type of Work: Sugar beet field workers.
Benjamin Morquez, Secretary,
Belle Fourche, South Dakota.

Local 330, UCAPAWA.
Chartered February 26, 1940.
Type of Work: Field workers.
Glen Hall, Financial Secretary,
Box 116,
Indio, California.

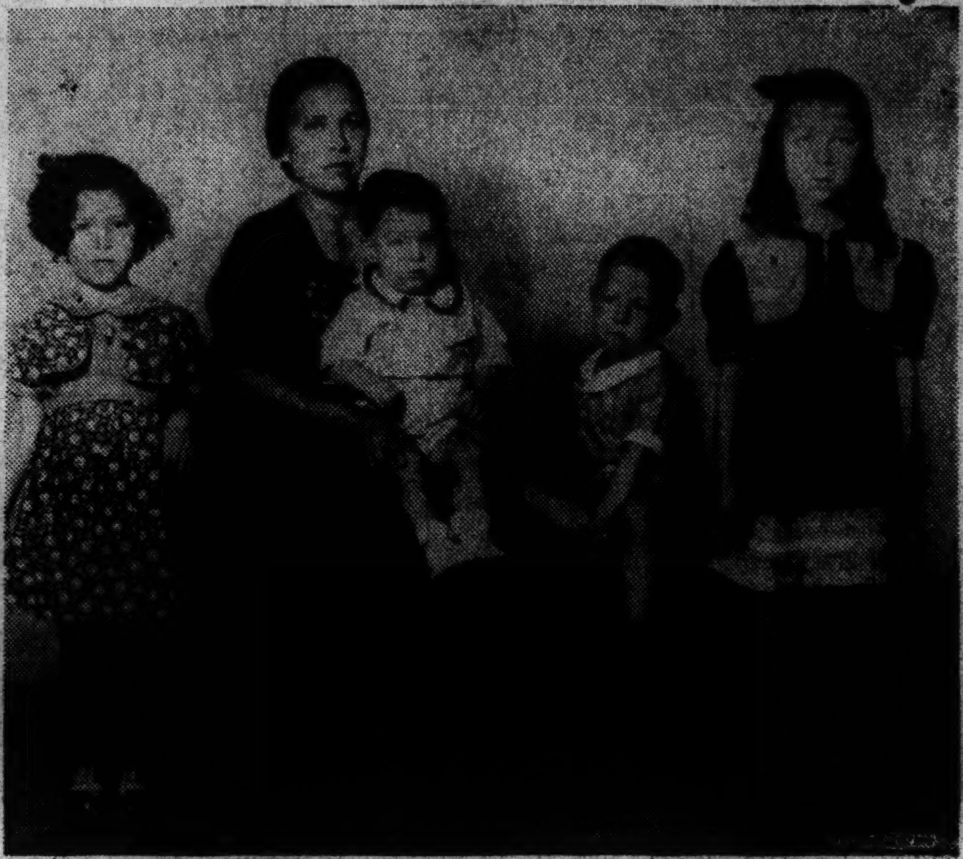
Local 333, UCAPAWA.
Chartered March 7, 1940.
Type of Work: Agricultural workers.
John M. Scales, Chairman,
1150 Cross Street, P. O. Box 898,
Madera, California.

Local 334, United Cannery Workers Union,
Chartered April 2, 1940.
Type of Work: Canned clams, fish and berries.
Evalena Gatens, Financial Secretary.
Copalis Beach, Washington.

Local 335, Carbon County Agricultural Workers Union,
Chartered April 10, 1940.
Type of Work: Sugar beet field workers.
Esteban Lopez, Secretary.
P. O. Box 101,
Fromberg, Montana.

Local 511, UCAPAWA.
Chartered April 17, 1940.
Peanut workers at Franklin, Virginia.

From A Cell in Texas



CHRISTOPHER CLARICH AND HIS FAMILY

Brothers and Sisters in UCAPAWA,

I want to thank you all most sincerely for the cash and the gifts that you sent through the International Office to my wife, kiddies and me at Christmas.

The money arrived at a time of acute need in my family. My wife and four small children are all alone "out there" without their father or anyone to look after them. Last year my family suffered want and privation because I was railroaded to jail. I hope that this year through the kindness of CIO and especially UCAPAWA members they will make out better.

My children will never forget the CIO. They know their daddy has given the greatest and best part of his life for it and he still believes he is right.

Most of you know my case. We were on strike. Armed strikebreakers tried to smash us. They clubbed me over the head and body, my arm was broken in six places. I defended myself as any man would. Yet I was given 20 years in jail. Just for being a leader in a UCAPAWA local.

I would be glad to hear from any of you. I send our pictures to see what we look like. My children are all sick now with "malnutrition" because of the bad winter.

Thank you for your loyal support. Take care of my wife and children as I would yours if this happened to you.

Christopher Clarich, No. 92363,
Box 32, Tag Plant,
Huntsville, Texas.

To members and Locals — Please send funds and letters direct to Brother Clarich.

Strike Solid After 6 Months

UCAPAWA Local 17 members on the Runnymede Farms in Reseda, California are going into their seventh month of strike for a Union contract and wages.

The splendid spirit displayed by these Union members does credit to the CIO. Out of 225 workers who went on strike only one has turned "scab" and gone back to work.

Before the union organized this largest poultry farm in the world, wages averaged $52 per month for all workers with unlimited overtime without pay. The union signed a contract which raised wages to $100 per month, 8-hour day, time and one-half for overtime and holiday work, seniority rights and a closed shop.

For two years Local 17 worked under contract but in October, 1939 the owner, J. Hartley Taylor decided to smash the union. A strike was called. The boss hired half-starved workers from Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and Missouri for $40 per month to scab, and housed them on the farm.

Despite this the strike is solid. The spirit of the men is fine. But they need help for themselves and their families since their treasury is completely gone. The International Office is issuing a special appeal to all locals to make generous contributions toward this worthy strike. Send all contributions and letters to Oliver R. Green, Secretary, P. O. Box 521, Reseda, California.

APR 17 1940
B.P.
File Room